

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claim 10 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1 and 6 as shown in the List of Claims. Double brackets and strikethroughs indicate text that has been deleted and underlining indicates text that has been added.

List of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A substantially purified protein[~~], except as existing in nature,~~] comprising the amino acid sequence ~~consisting functionally~~ of SEQ ID NO:1.
2. (Original) The protein of claim 1, wherein said amino acid sequence consists essentially of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 3-5. (Cancelled).
6. (Currently Amended) A substantially purified polynucleotide[~~], except as existing in nature,~~] encoding a the protein ~~comprising the amino acid sequence consisting functionally of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 of claim 1.~~
7. (Original) The polynucleotide of claim 6, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a protein consisting essentially of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
8. (Original) An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide of either claim 6 or claim 7.
9. (Original) A host cell transformed with the vector of claim 8.
10. (Cancelled).
11. (Original) The polynucleotide of claim 7, wherein said polynucleotide has a sequence consisting essentially of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

12. (Original) An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 11.
13. (Original) A host cell transformed with the vector of claim 12.
- 14-26. (Cancelled).